

# California Franchise Tax Board

## Homeowner Assistance Renter Assistance & Property Tax Postponement

CALIFORNIA  
FORM 9000R & INSTRUCTIONS

1999

RENTER  
ASSISTANCE  
CLAIM BOOKLET

CALIFORNIA

FORM 9000 & INSTRUCTIONS

1999

HOMEOWNER  
ASSISTANCE  
CLAIM BOOKLET



Check back to find out how to  
and for an online report. If

Ministry of Development Tax Board  
California's most...  
State Franchise Tax Board  
in Franchise Tax Board

### *Are You Eligible?*

Eligibility:

Eligible for one of the following on December 31, 1998:

- Low income household
- Elderly
- Disabled

For more information, visit...

www.ftb.ca.gov and for a complete guide to...

For more information, visit...

# 1999 INFORMATION

California has two assistance programs for senior citizens, blind or disabled individuals. The Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program is administered by the Franchise Tax Board, and the Property Tax Postponement Program is administered by the State Controller's Office.

## **What is Homeowner and Renter Assistance?**

Homeowner and Renter Assistance is an annual payment made by the State of California to qualified individuals. This payment is based upon your total household income and a portion of the property taxes that you paid on your home. Renters may also qualify for assistance as a portion of the rent is presumed to have been paid for property taxes.

Federal law, (The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996) requires that public assistance benefits including homeowner and renter assistance payments be distributed only to United States citizens and certain designated aliens, including qualified aliens.

## **To Qualify for Homeowner Assistance**

- You must have owned and lived in your home on December 31, 1998.
- You must be 62 years of age or older, blind or disabled on December 31, 1998.
- Your total household income must have been \$33,132 or less in 1998.
- Your gross household income must have been \$60,240 or less for 1998. Gross household income is your total household income on line 21 of form FTB 9000, Homeowner Assistance Claim, plus all noncash business expenses such as depreciation, amortization and depletion.
- You must be a citizen of the United States, a designated alien, or a qualified alien when you file your claim. See page 23 in either our Homeowner Assistance Claim Booklet (form 9000) or our Renter Assistance Booklet (form 9000R) for more information about alien statuses.

## **To Qualify for Renter Assistance**

- You must have lived in a rented residence all or part of 1998 and paid rent of \$50 or more per month.
- You must be 62 years of age or older, blind or disabled on December 31, 1998.
- Your total household income must have been \$33,132 or less for 1998.

- Your gross household income must have been \$60,240 or less for 1998. Gross household income is your total household income on line 21 of form FTB 9000R, Renter Assistance Claim, plus all noncash business expenses such as depreciation, amortization and depletion.
- You must be a citizen of the United States, a designated alien, or a qualified alien when you file your claim. See page 23 in either our Homeowner Assistance Claim Booklet (form 9000) or our Renter Assistance Booklet (form 9000R) for more information about alien statuses.

## **Who are household members?**

Household members include you, your spouse and all other persons (except minors, students and renters) who lived in your home during 1998.

## **What is household income?**

Household income is all income received during 1998 by all of your household members. It includes all income regardless of source or taxability.

## **Assistance you will receive**

Homeowners - The amount of assistance is base upon your total household income. It ranges from 4% to 96% of the property taxes on the first \$34,000 of the full value of your home.

Renters - The amount of assistance is based upon your total household income. Assistance ranges from \$10 to \$240.

## **When and where do you file?**

Homeowner and Renter Assistance claims must be filed with the Franchise Tax Board after May 15 and on or before August 31, 1999.

## **Claim forms and telephone assistance**

Claim booklets will be available after May 15, 1999. You can request claim booklets by calling the telephone number listed on the next page under Telephone Assistance or by writing to:

TAX FORMS REQUEST UNIT  
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 307  
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-0307

## **When will assistance payments be mailed?**

Most checks will be mailed by October 31, 1999.

# Property Tax Postponement

## What is Property Tax Postponement and who qualifies?

The Property Tax Postponement Program law gives qualified homeowners the option of having the State of California pay all or part of the property taxes on their homes. The amount of taxes postponed plus accrued interest generally does not need to be repaid to the state until the homeowner moves, sells the home or dies. However, any payments that you are qualified to receive from homeowner assistance claims will be applied to your postponed property taxes.

To qualify, you must be one of the following:

- 62 years of age or older,
- Blind,
- Disabled; AND

You must have a household income of \$24,000 or less (\$34,000 for those who filed and qualified in 1983.)

## Filing Information

A claim form must be filed for **each year** the homeowner desires to have property taxes postponed. Individuals who qualify for postponement may also qualify for Homeowner Assistance.

## Filing Period

The filing period for postponement of 1999-2000 property taxes is from May 15, 1999 through December 10, 1999.

## Claim forms and telephone assistance

Claim forms or information regarding property tax postponement can be obtained by calling the State Controller's Office (toll free) at (800) 952-5661.

## Telephone Assistance

For more information about Homeowner or Renter Assistance, call the Franchise Tax Board (toll-free).

Service is available between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

From within the United States, call.....(800) 852-5711

For hearing impaired with TDD, call.....(800) 852-6268

To hear recorded answers to common questions call:

From the United States.....(800) 338-0505

From outside the United States (not toll-free).....(916) 845-6600

Visit the Franchise Tax Board website at: [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov)

If you are calling from within the State of California about Property Tax Postponement, call the State Controller's Office (toll-free) at (800) 952-5661.